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HENRY FORD, President.  
C. J. FORD, Vice President.  
E. B. FORD, Secretary-Treasurer.  
E. G. PIPP, Editor.

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## Sowing Seeds of Trouble

ANYONE who is interested in seeing how wars are made may observe the process in easy operation during these days. Consciously or unconsciously the machinery that turns nation against nation has been set at work again. In America the machinery has been strongly set against Great Britain and France; in those countries it has been strongly set against the United States. The worst feature of all is that everything is so phrased as to carry the impression that "the people" of the United States or of some other countries—"the people"—are responsible for some of the things which are justly reprehended.

There is no getting around the fact that irresponsible newspaper talk is the power beneath the kindling of war. We have many illustrations of it all the time. We have it in our own Mexican situation. On one side of the line we read, "Mexicans Kill Americans"; on the other side of the line, "Americans Kill Mexicans"; and these national names are bandied about so much that all Americans and all Mexicans come to think of each other as exclusively in the killing game, and as nuisances which to wipe out would justify a little war. It is simply the daily practice of indicting a whole nation.

This is being done abroad in old-time style just now. Where is all the gold of the world? "Why, the Americans are wallowing in gold!" Where is the most comfortable place to live on earth today? "Why, the Americans have never known the pinch of economy—they have all the money and all the goods!" Who is it that is suffering want and disorganization and unemployment today? "Why, the countries that saved civilization. Countries like America that staid out until it was nearly over are not suffering. We suffered and denied ourselves, and now the Americans gobble up the fruits of it all!"

So it goes. Why is it not possible for some agency to operate that would enable the people of one country to know the people of another country? Why must we always carry around with us the false prejudice that because an English syndicate does thus-and-so, therefore the whole English people are not to be trusted? Why must the English carry around a false notion that because certain American bankers do thus-and-so, the American people themselves are a lot of skinflints? Must nations always suffer for the attitude of a coterie?

If America were rolling in wealth, why should there be so much unrest in her? That is a question our friends overseas might ponder. Surfeited nations do not disturb themselves with questions such as now rend America.

If the people from abroad only knew it, the conditions of living are harder in the United States than they ever were. The American dollar may rank high abroad; it is worth only about 38 cents at home. We pay two and three prices for everything we get, and nearly everything we get—except that manufactured by Nature herself—is of inferior quality. And upon this double and triple price, upon this inferiority of material there is a war tax. And after the war tax comes the income tax. And if you talk with the man and woman who really are America, you will find that they are worried and strained.

"But all the gold is in America!" Maybe so, but the "people" do not have it. "And all the goods are in America!" Maybe so, but there is still a scarcity of everything we try to buy. If the plain people of the world could sit down together and compare notes, the end of the conference would be a casting of eyes toward a little international group which does the things which

we say "the French" are doing, or "the English" are doing, or "the Americans" are doing.

There are two things we must do. First, if we are to avoid the conditions which make war possible, we have got to prevent this international group passing itself off as representatives of the people. The American "people" have absolutely nothing to do with the influences which force down the value of foreign money and force up the value of American money in order to gouge the needy nations both going and coming. The American people have nothing to do with that. The American Government has nothing to do with that. And those who are responsible for it must somehow be made to shoulder their own responsibility and not hide themselves behind the national antipathies and misunderstandings they have created.

And, second, if we are to avoid artificial poverty and stress, we have got to take the business of the world out of the hands of those who play across the international map as if it were a chess-board, pitting nation against nation, creating gluts there and scarcities here, bearing in one market and bulling in another—we have got to explode the tricks by which these groups have been able to get and keep their grip on the whole planet.

People who do their daily work cannot see the world-game as it is played. They cannot see how their very labor is, not only part of the stakes, but the very cards with which certain interests play. There ought to be some watch-tower, manned by honest watchmen, whose duty shall be to tell all nations equally the things which pertain to their common welfare, and save them from the gusts of unjustified passion, jealousy and suspicion which are stirred by un-national enemies.

## Canada Declares Herself

MR. ROWELL, president of the Canadian Privy Council, has been doing some very plain talking to Americans during recent months. Mr. Rowell resents with much emphasis the objection raised in the United States Senate to giving Canada a vote in the Assembly of the League of Nations. He declares with some feeling that Canada lost many more men in proportion to population than did the United States and history will bear out the fact that the Canadians surely were good fighters, as shown in their brave and brilliant work before Ypres, as well as in other places.

Canada, with Mr. Rowell, feels that it is not very neighborly nor fair on the part of the United States to begrudge a dominion that made the sacrifice she made, and has the resources and future she has, a place among nations equal to that accorded Haiti or Nicaragua or other small nations. And Australia and New Zealand, with other great sacrifices, feel the same way about it.

There is considerable misunderstanding about the votes and power in the League. To say that England has six times the voting power that the United States has is not stating the exact truth.

The power of the League is divided between the Assembly and the Council, and all important matters are placed in the hands of the Council. It is there that the United States has equal power with Great Britain and all her colonies combined; it is there that the United States has the veto power on anything that is proposed. The Council is made up of nine members, one each from the five leading nations—Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the United States—and four selected from other and smaller nations.

The matter of reducing armament will be up to the Council and not the Assembly; so is the subject of advising action under Article X, in fact all important executive functions rest in the Council.

Americans have a right to their opinion in permitting dominions of Great Britain a vote in the Assembly and a right to object if they wish to, and Canadians have a right to ask recognition for themselves if they wish; but more has been made of it in this country than conditions warrant.

Another thing, there is no certainty, scarcely a likelihood, that such dominions as Canada, Australia and New Zealand will always vote with Great Britain in the Assembly, if one may judge by some of the events that have taken place since the war.

Canadians are more like men and women of the United States than like any other nation. Their habits and trend of thought are much the same, and when it comes to voting on measures, Canada is as likely to be with the United States as with England.

England does not go to the Assembly with five votes in her pocket to cast as she pleases.

Before the Assembly, Canada has equal power with England and with the United States; before the Council, England and all her colonies together have just one vote; the United States has just one vote.

## Smile, Gentlemen, Smile!

THERE is a peevish tone creeping into the letters that are being sent out by the Leonard Wood National Campaign Committee. In one of them we read:

"Rumors in these pre-convention days about the enhanced progress of this candidate or that candidate in various parts of the country, are flying quick-winged everywhere. The rumor factory is run by the original Shanghai Liar, ably aided by the original St. Nicholas Mole Prevaricator, and everybody with a memory a score of years long remembers these gentlemen."

Sad news must have come from the rural districts and from the city workers—for the news is there.

Mr. Wood is a military man by instinct, training and profession. He wants to be President of the United States, a very laudable ambition, and has the backing of many men of wealth, some of whom have made fortunes from munitions of war.

They toasted him and they started him across the country with his own strong convictions—and with press agents, campaign committees and means of gaining publicity as well.

But there are other candidates in the field, and they, too, have press agents. And the press agents, whether for Mr. Wood or for somebody else, find what is true—that the farmers do not want their boys and hired men taken off the farms to do military duty in camps, forcing the farmers to permit their crops to rot on or in the ground, and that the city toilers do not care to be taken from their work and prepared for cannon fodder, unless it becomes absolutely necessary.

They all have an abiding faith in the country and in the people, know that a nation strong in the arts of peace is equally strong, should trouble be forced on it, and they are not for perpetual military training.

Besides that, leaders of the Republican party in the House of Representatives have something to think of besides Mr. Wood's candidacy—their own, for instance—and, also, there are many patriotic men among them.

Then the Wood committee reads of the Republican floor leader of the House taking a stand against universal military training at this time, and the party saying, "Let's pass it all up for the present."

Yet Mr. Wood feels he is right and his party leaders and the farmers and the city toilers are wrong—really it may affect his chances, you know.

But why get peevish? Why yell Liar at the men who tell truths?

Above all things the men running for the highest office in the land should keep good-natured.

## Sense From Mr. Mondell

CONGRESSMAN MONDELL, Republican floor leader of the House, has been putting up a good fight and with it some sound arguments against the plan to force the country now to universal military training.

He knows that, with a bill of \$9,000,000,000 before it, Congress has a threatened deficit of \$3,000,000,000, with \$2,500,000,000 the very lowest estimate.

He asserts, with facts to back him, that the universal training proposition would cost a billion dollars a year, and adds, "If we are to have any more large expenditures, gentlemen proposing them should bring along with their proposals a plan of additional taxes to pay the cost."

With nearly everything taxed now, Congress will be slow to levy more taxes.

But what is the use of it all?

We now have about 4,000,000 trained soldiers in the country. They could very soon train millions more should a crisis arise—and we should be thinking of plans for peace rather than more war.

Besides, look at Germany!

That nation had forced military training for 100 years. She was at the very crest of her power, when she got the worst whipping ever given a nation, and the final stroke was put on by a nation that was far from militaristic in spirit or training.

Good citizenship, thriving industries, men free to develop themselves in the arts of peace, these are the best possible guaranties of the safety of the nation in any emergency.

Expecting something for nothing is frequently classified as "hope," but in truth it is nothing more than plain idiocy.

A sofa pillow designed to rest the head on is the rarest work of woman.

The millennium will not arrive until the "Age of Discretion."

Man knows by tuition, woman by intuition.